



The Heavenly Herald

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

[Jesus said:] "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)

These words are familiar to every adult Christian (or at least they should be). We refer to them collectively as "The Great Commission" and they were spoken by our Lord Jesus Christ to His disciples just before He ascended into heaven from that mountain top in Galilee. With these final words, our Savior laid out the task before His disciples and every Christian, truly making them and us both apostles ("ones sent") and evangelists ("ones who share the Good News"). We often hear these words read at mission festivals, when missionaries or church planters are sent out, and, of course, as our Gospel reading on Ascension Day.

Just as these words are familiar to almost every adult Christian, they also strike fear into the hearts of those same Christians. Fear because we know that Jesus didn't only speak them to the group of faithful followers who were gathered around Him on top of that mountain 40 days after His resurrection; He spoke them to each of us also. Every Christian is sent out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in our every day lives, and that terrifies us. Just the thought of having to actively and openly talk about our faith to others has the all too common effect of making Christians, especially Lutherans, sick to their stomachs. Sure, we can usually drum up the courage to talk about our faith in a Bible study at Church and maybe with family, but to share our faith with someone who is not already a Christian, it strikes fear in our hearts.

There are all manner of reasons why this can happen to us. For some, it is because we are shy by nature; we just aren't outgoing, talkative

people. It's as simple as that. For others, we've tried talking about Jesus before, whether to a stranger, or coworker, or friend, and it didn't go well. As a result, we're "once bitten, twice shy." Then there are those of us who catastrophize; we expect and anticipate the completely, absolutely worst possible outcome of talking about Jesus and, in order to avoid that totally horrible outcome, we don't say anything at all. The list can go on and on *ad nauseum*: don't know what to say, not that kind of person, don't want to offend anyone, not knowledgeable enough to answer questions they might have, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera.

In all of our fear over these words and the expectation to go out and share the Gospel that they convey, we usually end up only hearing the first part of what Jesus says to us. Yes, He gives us a command/a charge/a mission to go out and share the Gospel, but He also gives us a promise. Those two things usually go hand in hand with our Lord; His words of command *and* promise. And that's exactly what we get here, in the last chapter of the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. Look at those words again:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. **And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.**"

You see those words there in bold at the end of The Great Commission, those are the words of promise that Jesus gives along with the words of command. Yes, our Lord makes us all apostles and evangelists, sending us out into the world, into our daily lives

(Continued on page 5)

Come Worship With Us

Sunday Worship Services:

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

(Nursery Care Available - 10:30 AM)

Sunday School

&

Adult Bible Classes:

9:10 AM

Summer Worship Service:

9:00 AM

(Fathers Day to Labor Day)



*The Heavenly Herald
is published for members
and friends of Cheshire
Lutheran Church.*

Church Staff

*Rev. Dr. David P. Rowold, PhD—
Pastor*

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*Martha Medford—Organist & Choir
Director*

Bill Soulier—Parish President

Beth Soulier—Editor

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Greetings, CLC family!



I hope this message finds you all well and enjoying the beautiful spring season.

April was a bustling month here at CLC. During Lent, we came together for Soup and Salad dinners on Wednesday evenings, followed by Bible study and a Lenten service. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the preparation, setup, and creation of those delicious soups and salads.

We also hosted our second annual Easter Egg Hunt, which turned out to be a fantastic success. Another big thank you to all who coordinated and supported this joyful event. Our spring cleanup was yet another example of our community coming together, and I'm truly grateful to everyone who pitched in.

Of course, Easter Sunday was a highlight, as we celebrated with inspiring services and a wonderful breakfast in between. Special thanks go to Pam and Andy Clark, as well as Diane and Don Drust, for their incredible efforts in making the morning so memorable.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Looking ahead in May, we're excited about upcoming activities. The Youth will be hosting a Tag Sale at the church on May 31st. If you're clearing out during your spring cleaning, please consider donating items to the sale. We're also seeking volunteers from the congregation to help sort and price items. If you're interested, please reach out to Andy Clark.

Additionally, our new Pictorial Directory will be available in May. This was a significant project completed in-house, and I want to extend my gratitude to April Slauson and Beth Soulier (my wife!) for their dedication and hard work. This was no small task, and we deeply appreciate their efforts.

On Tuesday, April 22nd, we held a Council meeting to discuss regular church business. Looking forward, our next Voters' Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 18th, at 12:15 PM after the late service. Your attendance is crucial so we can reach a quorum and continue advancing important CLC matters.

If you are interested in becoming a voter, simply attend two voters' meetings and express your desire to join. Our following Voters' Meeting will take place on September 7th. If you have any questions or concerns regarding church business, please don't hesitate to reach out to any council member.


Thank you all for your continued support and participation. Stay well and be blessed!

Yours in Christ

Bill Soulier

CLC Calendar

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 8:00 Holy Communion 9:10 SSchool, Youth & Adult Bible Studies 10:30 Holy Communion	5	6	7 7:00 Bell Choir 7:45 Parish Choir	8	9	10
11 Happy Mother's Day! 8:00 Worship 9:10 SSchool, Youth & Adult Bible Studies 10:30 Worship w/ children singing	12 6:00 Ladies Night Out @ CLC	13	14 1:30 Bible Study 7:00 Bell Choir 7:45 Parish Choir	15	16	17 9:00 Quilts of Valor 
18 8:00 Holy Communion 9:10 SSchool, Youth & Adult Bible Studies 10:30 Holy Communion VOTERS' MEETING	19	20	21 1:30 Bible Study 7:30 Parish Choir	22	23 Heavenly Herald articles due to Beth Soulier	24
25 8:00 Worship 9:10 SSchool, Youth & Adult Bible Studies 10:30 Worship	26 Memorial Day	27	28 1:30 Bible Study 7:30 Parish Choir	29	30	31 YOUTH TAG SALE!

Left Blank for Servant Schedule

(Continued from page 1)

with the charge to share the Good News of our salvation in Him. He wants, no, He expects us to tell others about our Savior in our words and deeds. At the same time, He does not send us out there into the world on our own. You are not alone when you open your mouth to talk about your Lord and Savior, and I'm not talking about the person standing in front of you to whom you are terrified to speak. I'm talking about Jesus; He's right there with you, right there beside you as you go out into the world.

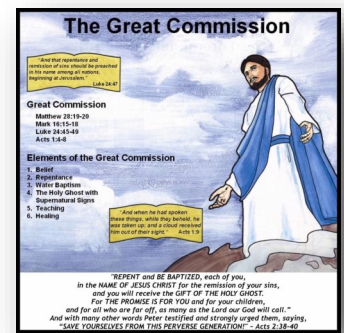
For so many of us, what terrifies us the most about the prospect of sharing our faith with others is the thought of doing it by ourselves, being alone. I cannot tell you how many times I have heard people say, myself included, something along the lines of "Sure, if someone will go with me." When a brother or sister in Christ is willing to walk along side of us, to go with us in the task, then we're not so afraid. I don't know if it's the "safety in numbers" mentality, or whether we're subconsciously remembering that Jesus sent His followers out in two's when they went to spread the Good News of the kingdom. Either way, if someone's with us, we're okay.

And that is the promise of The Great Commission. Someone is with you when you go out into the world to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the people you meet during your life. The person is not merely another believer like yourself. That person is the Only-begotten Son of God, your Almighty Lord who gives you everlasting life. Jesus Himself goes with you. With Him always by our side, there is nothing we need fear.

The next time the opportunity presents itself to talk about your faith, don't be afraid. Remember that Jesus is with you, take a deep breath, and share.

In Christ,

Pastor David Rowold



NEW PICTORIAL CLC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY COMING SOON...

We're delighted to share that the updated Pictorial Member Directory has been completed and is now in the process of being printed and bound. We anticipate it will be available for congregants by mid-May 2025.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed photos and provided updated contact information—your support made this possible!

Special appreciation goes to the dedicated team who worked tirelessly to bring this new Pictorial to life:

- ✦ April Slauson - Committee Lead and Photographer
- ✦ Tim Weiland - Contributing Photographer & Copy Editor
- ✦ Rob Delaubell - Content Reviewer
- ✦ Pastor Rowold - Content Reviewer
- ✦ Brenna Steczkowski - Content Reviewer



MEMORIAL GARDEN & COLUMBARIUM NEWS...

The Columbarium Committee continues to communicate and meet regularly to discuss status of Inurnment Subscription and Memorial Plaque purchases.



Reminder to families and loved ones of the inurned, per our By-Laws, kindly refrain from leaving items (flora, trinkets, etc.) at or around the Columbarium. While we understand this is done in loving remembrance, CLC does not have the staff to remove these items in a timely manner. Please feel free to discuss with any member of the committee. Thanks so much.

Subscriptions

- ✠ There are currently 16 of our CLC Family inurned in our Columbarium and 2 pending Inurnment occurring soon.
- ✠ There are currently 30 inurnment subscriptions & 6 pending possibilities.
- ✠ We have 22 memorial plaques purchased and one pending possibility.

The following congregants now rest in our hearts and whose remains are a reminder to remain steadfast in hope and faith that we will be reunited.

Saints Inurned In Our Columbarium

Marilyn E. Allesandrine (Jul. 31, 1939 – Mar. 21, 2019)
 Lillian Derganc (June 4, 1933 - Sep. 6, 2023)
 Judith Schnaars DiDomizio (Dec. 4, 1941 – May 10, 2021)
 Richard Hagstrom (May 22, 1930 – July 4, 2021)
 William Hillis, M.D (February 24, 1929 - December 8, 2024)
 Edythe (Diddy) Izard (May 17, 1922—Mar. 7, 2023)
 Richard (Dick) Izard (June 20, 1921—July 4, 2009)
 Philip L. Kenney (Aug. 4, 1927 – Nov. 22, 2013)
 Arthur F. Munter Sr. (Feb. 8, 1929 – Jan. 21, 2018)
 Mary Bianchini Munter (Jun. 16, 1929 – Mar. 11, 2021)
 Rev. Louis G. Nuechterlein (Oct. 10, 1928 – Jan. 25, 2025)
 William F. Schmollinger (Feb. 9, 1924 - Jan. 20, 2007)
 Carolyn R. Schmollinger (Jan. 13, 1929 - June 28, 2022)
 Ralph Joseph Schupp (Nov. 9, 1926 - Sep. 20, 2021)
 Joseph W. Stark (June 17, 1932 - Dec. 31, 2021)
 Rita Martha Stark (Mar. 30, 1932 - June 5, 2023)



Consider this Beautiful spot for Memorial Plaque or to house your final remains.

For more information, grab a pamphlet and/or contact any member of the Memorial Garden and Columbarium Committee. Please also stay tuned in the coming weeks for more information to our congregants regarding End of Life Planning.

Pat DiDomizio	Vicki DePaolo	Jim Mertz
Margie Mertz	Randy Raddatz	Bill Soulier
Beth Soulier	Ed Schweizer	Tim Weiland



OUR SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER LIST...

The Sunday Morning Prayer List was reset After Easter Sunday. If you have the name of a loved one on the Prayer List that you would like added or returned to the list, please contact Pastor. Also, if you have submitted a name to the Prayer list, please remember to give Pastor periodic updates on the people we are praying for, especially if circumstances have improved and they should be removed from the list. We take great joy when we can take a name off the list for good reasons.

NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...



The Easter Egg hunt was *egg-celent*! We had perfect weather on the day we hosted the event!

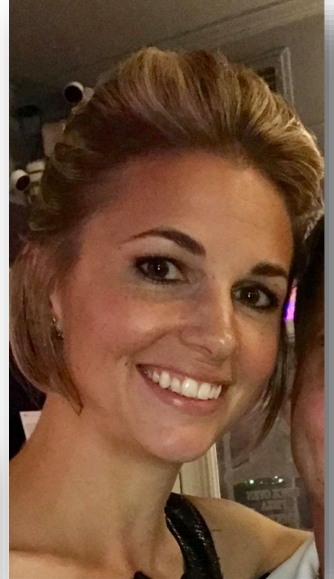
The Congregation entirely donated 3,200 eggs and fillers! This was very generous. The kids and I thank you very much!

Thank you to all the volunteers who made it happen, in particular Grace Mueller. She was the most incredible Easter bunny!

I greatly appreciate the Congregation's support in all my activities that I plan. Thank you very much!

Many blessings,

Erica Bencivenga
Evangelism Deacon



NEWS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP DEACON...

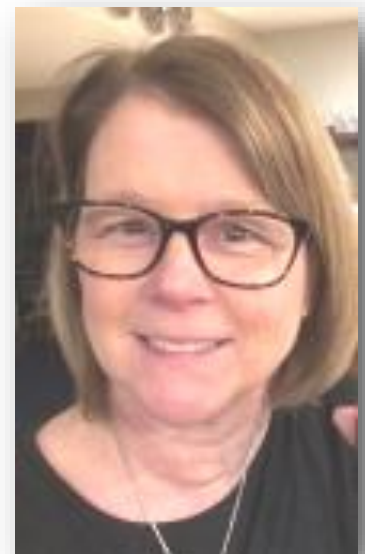
Easter Celebration Breakfast Update and Thanks:

Thank you to everyone who helped setup, cleanup and brought so many delicious egg casseroles, side dishes and desserts for our Easter breakfast. A special thank you to Don and Diane Drust for contributing colorful spring flowers, French Toast sticks, yogurt, fruit punch, as well as serving, leading the kitchen crew, and so much more. We are blessed to have so many members willing to show up and work together for a glorious event. We had over 85 people attend and it was a wonderful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. He has Risen, Indeed! Alleluia! The freewill offering has gone to the Fellowship account and will be used to continue bringing members of CLC together in the coming months.

Annual CLC Picnic Planning:

It almost seems too soon to prepare, but please mark your calendar for our Annual CLC Picnic on June 8th. We will kick off the summer season with a barbeque, games for all ages, and great fellowship. There will be indoor seating to accommodate for foul weather and those inclined to eating indoors. This event begins following the 10:30 service. We ask members to join us and share a side dish, salad or dessert. Look for the signup sheet mid-May. This helps us supply enough burgers and hot dogs, as well as paper products and seating.

Pam Clark
Fellowship Deacon





CLC STRENGTHENING OUR DIGITAL PRESENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA...

In today's fast-paced digital age, it's crucial for our Church to remain connected and engaged with our congregation and the broader community. As part of our ongoing efforts to adapt and thrive in this digital landscape, we are committed to improving our digital footprint on Facebook.

Improving our digital footprint on Facebook is a step forward in our mission to share God's love and connect with our congregation and the wider community. It's an opportunity to reach more people, build stronger bonds of fellowship, and inspire positivity in an increasingly digital world. We look forward to this journey of growth and connection, and we invite you to join us on Facebook as we continue to spread the message of faith, hope, and love. Together, we can make a meaningful impact in the digital realm and beyond.



NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION?

Just slip your information or a note into one of the folders on the hallway table outside the church office. Folders have been created for each of the council members, Beth Soulier (the editor of this newsletter) and a few others, and placed outside the office. We have found that this is a great way to distribute information within the congregation.



NEWS FROM THE HOUSE & GROUNDS DEACON...

On Saturday, March 29, 2025, we had our annual cleaning of both the inside and outside of the Church. Thank you to everyone that helped it was a great success with many helping keep our CLC home looking sharp...inside and out!

Thanks to all for pitching in, not only for this event, but all year long.

Jon Schrumm
House & Grounds Deacon



REMINDER: TO CONNECT AND GREET ONE ANOTHER...

We kindly remind you to take a moment after the service to greet those around you. Whether they are guests or fellow members, if you spot someone you don't know, please introduce yourself. Encourage visitors to introduce themselves to Pastor and sign the guest book so we can stay in touch. Don't forget to thank them for joining us and let them know we hope to see them again.

Your friendly gesture can truly brighten someone's day and help build a welcoming, connected church community. Thank you for fostering a spirit of warmth and hospitality!

Sunday School

The children are invited to sing in church on Sunday, May 11, 2025, during the 10:30 service.

May Lessons are: May 4, A Telling Truth; May 11, A Servant Speaks; May 18, Philip and an Ethiopian; and May 25, a Fun Day based on the Loaves and Fish.

Important change for the remainder of this Sunday School year. We will have Opening in the Sanctuary. The space we usually use is being repurposed temporarily. Classes will still be in their usual locations; the Opening location is the only part that will change. We will still pray, sing, collect offering and have a few more visits from “Moses” to help us learn the 10 Commandments, and we will still hear the lesson for the day; it will just be in a different space.

Our last lesson is Sunday, June 1, 2025, then we will be on break for the summer. Please join us again in September. Watch for details about the fall in the summer newsletter.

We have time for snack and fellowship before Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Opening begins at 9:20 a.m. Our teachers look forward to seeing their students each week.

Teachers Needed!

A few of our teachers have let me know they are stepping back from teaching next year. We need some new Sunday School teachers to work with our amazing students next school year. Please prayerfully consider joining us as a Sunday School teacher.

VBS

Save the Dates! July 7-11 for VBS here at CLC we will use Group's True North VBS, “Trusting Jesus in a Wild World.” We will make decorations from June 23-27, and put the decorations up June 30 – July 3 and July 6 after the service. The decorating wish list and a volunteer sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway. We have placed the registration form on our website at <https://www.cheshirelutheran.org/vbs>. Print and fill out the form and drop off at the Church office. You can also get packets from the church office. Please pray for our volunteers and consider joining us. We have received more than 30 registrations already.



Thank you to everyone who has generously bought or agreed to lend items from the decorating wish list on Amazon. Your support has been incredible!

For those still looking to contribute, there are remaining items on the Amazon wish list. You can go to https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3U0KOC7J6F6H2?ref_=wl_share or access it using the QR code!

Here's how:

1. Open the camera app on your device.
2. Point your camera at the QR code (to the right) until a link appears on your screen.
3. Tap the link to be directed to our Amazon wish list.

You'll also find the QR code posted on the bulletin board in the hallway near the fellowship hall for easy access.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help with VBS this year. The excitement is building and we get ready to Trust Jesus in a Wild World!

Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions, let us know.

Tricia Rowold
Sunday School Superintendent



QR Code for VBS Wishlist

CLC SAYS GOODBYE TO A CHERISHED FRIEND...

Sunrise July 26, 1938 ~ Sunset April 11, 2025

Alfred E Mayer



On April 11, 2025, our dear brother in Christ, “Al Mayer“, was called home to join those who have gone before us, reuniting with Our Lord.

Friends are invited to greet his family at the Alderson-Ford Funeral Home of Cheshire, 615 So. Main Street, Cheshire, CT 06410, on Friday, July 18, 2025, from 4 PM until 7 PM.

His Funeral Service will be held at the Cheshire Lutheran Church, 660 W. Main St., Cheshire, on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at 11 AM. Inurnment will follow at the Cheshire Lutheran Church Columbarium.

We join the Mayer family in grieving the loss of this devoted child of God and we cling to our Savior Jesus as we look forward to the day when we will be reunited with him and all the faithful around the throne in heaven.

None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. (Rom. 14:7-8)

“Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”

Matthew 25:21

GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER!

The Thursday Ladies Group is pleased to offer a variety of high-quality greeting cards with Christian messages, available for purchase at \$1 each. These cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We continuously refresh the selection, including cards for Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, seasonal, and miscellaneous occasions. We've refreshed the cards for the new year to offer you an even wider variety.



After making your selection, please leave your payment in the box attached to the display.

We are grateful to all who continue to support this ongoing program. Your thoughtful participation helps make this benevolence initiative a success.

Contact Person: Paula Ongley

CLCW LADIES NIGHT OUT...

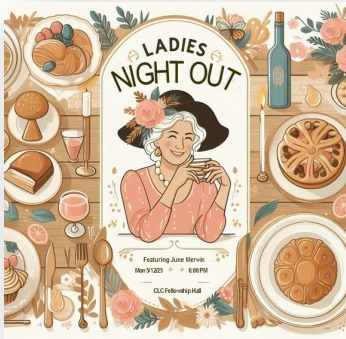
The ladies of the church are cordially invited to a dinner to be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The dinner will be catered (by ShopRite) and will include salads, several main courses and desserts and beverages.

After dinner, there will be a presentation about the Lutheran Women's Missionary League by Dr. June Merwin who is the current President of the LWML New England District.

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

For questions, please contact Karen Weiland—You can find my contact information in the CLC Member Directory or you can contact the Church Office.



NEWS FROM OUR YOUTH DEACON...

Support our youth activities and participation at the next National Youth Gatherings by participating in this year's Tag Sale fundraiser! Every contribution makes a difference in empowering our young community.

Starting last Sunday, April 27th, you're welcome to bring your items to the Church. Drop-off tables are conveniently set up in the Fellowship Hall for your use. To make things easier, we kindly ask you to consider providing a price tag for items—especially if they are brand-new or of significant value. This will help us streamline the pricing process.

Please note that we are unable to accept Christmas-themed items for this event.

If you have any questions or need further information, Andy Clark will be happy to assist you.

Andy Clark
Youth Deacon



Cheshire Lutheran Church

NEW DATE—June 1, 2024—NEW DATE



Our Sincere Appreciation

- ✦ Many thanks to Pam Clark and the Fellowship Committee for planning and executing our wonderful Easter Breakfast. The congregation acknowledges your hard work and dedication. It was a wonderful way to celebrate our Risen Lord. Thank You.
- ✦ Heartfelt thanks to the Drusts (Don and Diane) for ALL you do for us. We want you to know how much we appreciate all you do for our Congregation Family
- ✦ THANK YOU MARTHA MEDFORD. Again, we are so Blessed. Your hard work shows and we are eternally grateful that you continue to share your musical talents with us. Thank you also to the wonderful performances and musicians that you arranged to enhance our services throughout Lent and Easter.
- ✦ Thank you again to the Manke Brothers for supplying the beautiful Easter Lilies that adorned the Altar helping to make Easter Morning so special.
- ✦ Thank you as always to Tim Weiland for his beautiful photography that chronicle all the activities that take place at CLC.
- ✦ An additional thanks to Steve Feero & Bill Juul for doing such a great job with keeping our Website up to date and for leading the team of folk that run our Sunday 8:00 AM Live Streams (and other Services).
- ✦ Many thanks to all musicians in Bell Choir, and Parish Choirs, as well as instrumentalists, who have contributed to this church year. Your music has contributed greatly to our worship at Cheshire Lutheran Church. Martha Medford
- ✦ Thank you to our Sunday School teachers and behind the scenes helpers. Thank you. Our Children need their Christian education now more than ever. WE APPRECIATE YOU!
- ✦ Pastor, Tricia and Sarah, we all send you heartfelt thanks for continuing to share your lives and leadership with us.



CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
May 4 - Sunday	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir
May 7 - Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:45 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
May 11 - Sunday	9:30 AM	Rehearsal	Sunday School Children
	10:30 AM	Performance	Sunday School Children
May 14 - Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	7:45 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
May 18 - Sunday	7:20 AM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Bell Choir
May 21 - Wednesday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
May 25 - Sunday	*** <i>No Choirs</i> ***		
May 28 - Wednesday	7:30 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
June 1—Sunday	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.



THANKS TO OUR
VETERANS AND
SOLDIERS

MEMORIAL DAY

IN MEMORY OF MANY, IN
HONOR OF ALL

NEWS FROM THE WORSHIP DEACON...

You are cordially invited to be a:



- † **Reader**
- † **Usher**
- † **Greeter**
- † **Singer or Ringer**
- † **Altar Guild**
- † **Live Stream Camera Operator**



For a typical four Sunday month, there can be at least 70 “periods of service” when members usher, acolyte, read lessons, greet other members before service, and prepare the altar. (And this does not count the choir’s musical offerings that make our worship special).

LESSON READERS for Sunday worship are needed! Please contact April Slauson for more information.



NEWS FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEACON...

Mothers Day Blanket Sunday:

The list of blanket donations will be included in the bulletin on Mother’s Day.

Cheshire Food Pantry—Adopt a Shelf—Wish List Items:

Your generosity makes a significant impact on those in need.

- **Adopt a Shelf - Liquid Dish Soap:** We’re continuing our “Adopt a Shelf” program, focusing on liquid dish soap.
- **Wish List Items:** The current wish list includes: sugar (small packets), vegetable oil, mayonnaise, cannellini beans and canned meats.
- **Delivery Sign-Up:** When signing up to deliver items to the food pantry, please aim for the **third week of the month**. This helps us accurately record our food totals for the **Heavenly Herald**.

Ongoing Collection for Cheshire Food Pantry



**The Cheshire
Community Food
Pantry, Inc.**

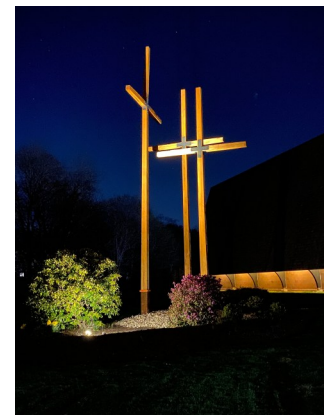
FEED OUR FUTURE

Our continuous collection for the Cheshire Food Pantry remains active with bins located under the counter near the church office doors. Please consider signing up to deliver the items to the food pantry. In January, we donated 45 pounds of food to those in need. Thank you for your generosity and support!

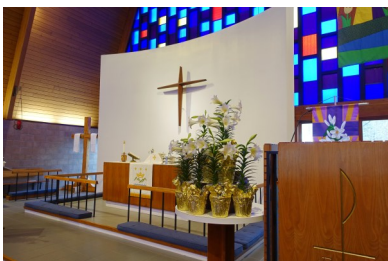
Terri Daly
Social Welfare Deacon



April, Holy Week



& Easter Memories





NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY...

May Special Guest Columnist

We have a special guest columnist this month. Your donation *check* has requested the opportunity to speak with you, and we are happy to oblige.

* * * * *

Hello Everyone,

This is your donation check speaking to you through the Heavenly Herald.

First, let me thank all CLC Members who enclose me in their Offering Envelope when placing me in the collection plate. I feel so safe and protected when enclosed in your Offering Envelope. The envelope preserves the privacy of your donation, and it keeps me warm so I don't have to touch the cold metal of the collection plate.

And I know that your Collection Count Team really appreciates this. Your Offering Envelope includes a unique number that the team uses to keep track of all your donations, so that quarterly and annual offering statements can be sent to you. These statements should assure you that your donations have been accurately received and deposited.

Now I know there will be occasions when members will send me to the Church without using an Offering Envelope. When that happens, I hope you can remember to write your Offering Envelope number right on the front of me — you can write it on my “memo” line.

And I want you to know that I am fine with your using the Vanco online donation service to send your donations. Vanco can be easily accessed through the CLC website. When you use Vanco, your Collection Count Team appreciates it when you inform Vanco of your Offering envelope number in the space provided on their input screen. And when you use a credit card, the Church appreciates all of you Vanco users who choose to reimburse CLC for the Vanco transaction fees.

Any questions or comments? Send them to your Financial Secretary (finsec@cheshirelutheran.org) and he will pass them along to me.

Bye for now,

YOUR DONATION CHECK



DO YOU KNOW THE DATE OF YOUR BAPTISM?...



Well, do you? Do you know the date that you were Baptized? If you do, we'd like to know it in the Church office too. We already keep track of birthdays and wedding anniversaries, including them in the monthly newsletters and the Sunday morning prayers. We are now going to add “Baptismal Birthdays” to that list too. Please contact the Church office to share the date of their Baptism. As we get more information we will add it to the list of those special days included in the *Heavenly Herald*.



WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR BAPTISM:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| ✠ May 1—April Slauson | ✠ May 15—David Schrumm |
| ✠ May 7—John Balash | ✠ May 16—Vicki DePaolo |
| ✠ May 11—Conner DeLaubell | ✠ May 23—Michael Rowold |
| ✠ May 12—Thom Zeppieri | ✠ May 26—Thomas Tuscano |

Contact the church office to add your “Baptismal Birthday” to the list.

THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

A monthly glimpse of the history of your Cheshire Lutheran Church:

May, 1959	Building Fund Campaign begun with 3-year pledges totaling \$23,000.
May, 1960	Pastor Louis Nuechterlein accepts call as Pastor
May 7, 2017	Pastor Gustafson leads his last Service and Retires from CLC



NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...

Charity Gifting Life Insurance Idea:

Another way to give to a charity is through life insurance. The client/donor can make a full gift of an existing policy and be eligible for an appropriate income tax deduction equivalent to the lesser of the fair market value or the donors' basis in the policy at the time of the transfer. Once the charity owns the policy, future donations can be used by the charity to pay premiums which might be eligible for an income tax deduction. The client/donor can also purchase a new policy, make the charity the owner, and take a deduction on the annual premiums. Life insurance can be a valuable way to leave a long-lasting legacy to their favorite charity.

Consult your Financial Advisor for more information.

Reminder: We're Still Collecting Stories About Stewardship:

Sharing your Personal Stewardship Journey Continues:

We're still actively gathering articles for *The Heavenly Herald* and encourage more members of the congregation to take part. Writing about your experiences with stewardship—whether through volunteering, participating in church activities, or financial giving—is a wonderful way to celebrate faith in action and inspire others.

Your reflections can highlight how stewardship has enriched your spiritual journey and offer encouragement for others to live out their faith through giving.



If you're willing to share your story, please reach out to me for more information or assistance.

We'd love to feature your thoughts and experiences in one of our upcoming editions.

Thank you for being part of this meaningful effort to share and celebrate stewardship within our community!

Rob DeLaubell
Stewardship Deacon





CLC HELPING HANDS...

The Helping Hands volunteers have been tirelessly serving our community over the past few months. From visiting shut-ins during the holidays to providing meals for those in need, their dedication has been unwavering. During Lent and Easter we supported Brenna with mailings to shut-ins and delivering an Easter gift during Holy Week.

Our meal and transportation assistance continues to be available as needed. We invite you to lend YOUR HAND! If you need assistance or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Sally. You can find her contact information in the Church Directory or contact the Church Office.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity! Together, we can make a meaningful impact in our community.

Thank you,
Sally Schrumm
Helping Hands Committee

Please reach out the Church Office or CLC Directory for my contact information.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- ✝ Meals
- ✝ Transportation
- ✝ Visitation—Especially around Holidays
- ✝ Mailing cards - holiday and thinking of you
- ✝ Seasonal gifts.. apple pies at thanksgiving, cookies at Christmas, palms and Lenten devotional, Easter flowers



NEW ON OUR WEBSITE...WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✝ Wonderful aerial drone video put to music of our beautiful church grounds.
- ✝ Live streaming and video recordings of Sunday Services during.
- ✝ Service video with enhanced music recordings—YouTube sometimes does not broadcast the best sounding audio.
- ✝ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by Soloists and Special Ensembles this Summer
- ✝ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds.
- ✝ Video recordings from many past events.
- ✝ Audio and Video recordings of Pastor's Sermons and other events.
- ✝ Pictures, pictures, pictures and more pictures from all our past events other miscellaneous photos taken in and around the Church by Tim Weiland.
- ✝ Much, much more...



CLC ANNUAL PICNIC - MARK YOUR CALENDARS— JUNE 8, 2025...

Please join us for fellowship and fun at the church picnic, which will be held after the 10:30 service on June 8th. There will be drinks, grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, side dishes (both hot and cold) and desserts on offer.

We will be adding some fun activities to enjoy after the meal.

For further details, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Also needed, that same day, are people to help set up the tables and chairs in the tents on the lawn beforehand and to clean up afterwards.

All are welcome to sign-up to have a great time with your fellow church members. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Pam Clark
Fellowship Committee



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO RUN OUR VIDEO EQUIPMENT...

We have been enjoying the new audio/video equipment for over a year now. Special care was utilized during the purchase process that the equipment be easy to use for volunteers, including those with no prior background in sound or video equipment. Do you take videos with your phone? Are you interested in learning more about audio/video and streaming technology?

Offer your time and increase your video talent and assist with running the new equipment for an 8 AM church service. You will be helping Pastor Rowold and our Service to go live on YouTube. Contact Tim Weiland or Bill Juul for details.

We will train volunteer staff on all of the equipment and help troubleshoot any problems that may arise as people master the system. Your efforts will give you new skills you can carry into other areas of their lives if you so choose.



ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

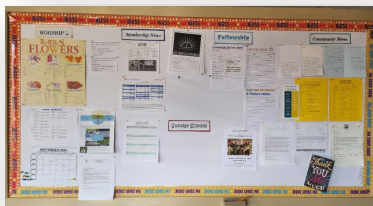
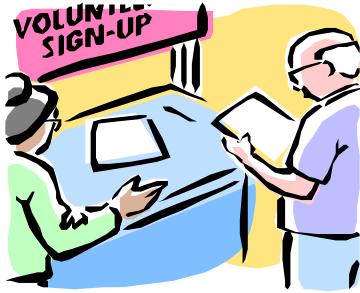
Remember to check the Bulletin Boards and/or hallway table for sign-up sheets and information about various events!

This month on the Bulletin Board:

- ✦ **2025 Flower Chart Sign-up**
- ✦ **CLC Usher Schedule**
- ✦ **Live Stream Camera & Operator sign-up**
- ✦ Address information for Gloria Nuechterlein and Bo Hagstrom at Elim Park ♥
- ✦ Names of those serving on our CLC Council and Deacons
- ✦ **Information on CLC family members called home** to be with Jesus
- ✦ **Lutheran Church Extension Fund** information
- ✦ **The Magic of the Italian Lakes** trip information
- ✦ Nuechterlein Family photo
- ✦ **Sunday School Schedule** through 2025
- ✦ **Sunday Coffee Hour** sign-up
- ✦ **Thank You Cards** and other correspondence
- ✦ **Cheshire Food Drive** Volunteer info. and sign-ups

Others looking for help!

- ✦ **Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Pam Clark if you can help in any capacity.
- ✦ **Ushers are needed** to work both services. Contact April Slauson to volunteer.
- ✦ **Helping Hands** is has expanded its mission and ministry. Contact Sally Schrumm to learn more and volunteer.
- ✦ **Sunday School Teachers Needed.** Please contact Tricia Rowold



DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS PRESCHOOL AGE?...



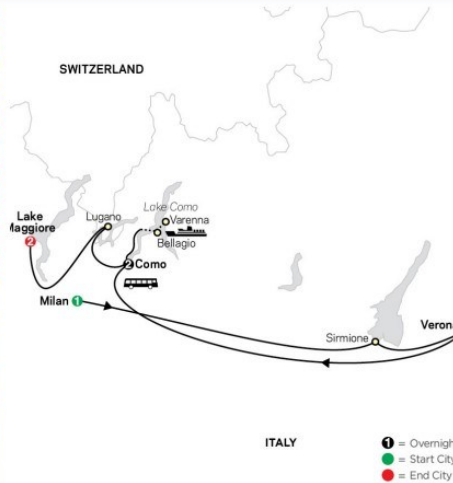
If so, please suggest to their parents that they look into our Little Cherubs Christian Preschool program. Little Cherubs was the recipient of the 2023 Cheshire award for BEST PRESCHOOL. We are: a state licensed facility, our curriculum supports State of CT Benchmarks, focus is on kindergarten readiness, there is a low student to teacher ratio and we have enrichment programs available!

Little Cherubs Preschool offers a sound Christian curriculum and quality learning opportunities that nurture a child's spiritual, intellectual, social, physical & emotional growth and development.

For detailed information about our Little Cherubs program please visit our church's website: www.cheshirelutheran.org/little-cherubs-christian-preschool/

Kelley Collins-Pardee
Christian Education Deacon

EXPLORING ITALY: POTLUCK & PLANNING WITH PASTOR WISMAR...



The Magic of the Italian Lakes

8 DAYS | July 26—August 2, 2026 | Milan to Lake Maggiore

Day 1: (SUN) 26 JULY – Arrive in Milan, Italy Welcome to Milan! Check into your hotel and start exploring! Tonight, meet your Tour Director and Travel Companions.

Day 2: (MON) 27 JULY – Milan-Sirmione-Verona Start the day with an orientation tour of Milan, stopping to admire the famous Gothic-style Duomo. Travel east through the Po Valley and stop at Lake Garda to discover Sirmione. This is a Spa town rich in thermal waters and ancient charm situated on a long peninsula surrounded by breathtaking views. Among its highlights, a medieval castle, the famous Roman villa and grottoes of Catullo. Spend the evening in Verona, the "city of love". (B)

Day 3: (TUE) 28 JULY – Verona In the morning, a Local Guide take you through the old cobblestone streets of the old part of Verona telling you the stories behind the old buildings and how this beautiful city inspired Shakespeare. Spend the afternoon shopping, visiting, or taking a stroll along the Adige River banks. (B)

Day 4: (WED) 29 JULY – Verona-Lake Como This morning, say goodbye to the romantic city of Verona and continue to fascinating Lake Como, where you'll spend two nights. Stroll around the narrow alleys of the city center and the lungolago and maybe taste some fabulous local gelato. (B)

Day 5: (THU) 30 JULY – Lake Como. Excursion to Bellagio and Varenna Inspiring everyone from Roman senators and great composers to Hollywood actors, Como is the romantic image of the lakes. Its cobalt-blue waters are lined with magnificent mountains, lush gardens, and grand villas. Join the included boat trip to Bellagio, set in one of the most scenic position in all of Italy, and Varenna, an old fishing village. (B)

Day 6: (FRI) 31 JULY – Lake Como-Lugano, Switzerland-Lake Maggiore, Italy Depart Lake Como and cross the border into Switzerland. Head towards beautiful Lake Lugano and the stylish city that bears its name. Time to stroll along the lakeside promenade, window shop on refined Via Nassa, or sip an espresso on the Piazza Riforma. Leave Switzerland and cross back into Italy, driving to Lake Maggiore. (B)

Day 7: (SAT) 1 AUGUST - Lake Maggiore, Italy Set between Piedmont, Lombardy, and Switzerland, Lake Maggiore is a paradise of crystal waters, backed by towering mountains and surrounded by lush countryside. The day is yours to relax or to enjoy some of the many activities available around the lake. Farewell dinner this evening. (B,D)

Day 8: (SUN) 2 AUGUST - Lake Maggiore Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. Safe travels until we meet again! (B)

Pricing: \$1,799*pp based upon double occupancy
Travel Protection (optional - due at time of deposit): \$199pp
Deposit: \$250pp + Travel Protection

*Itinerary/pricing subject to change, Airfare not included in cost.

** Departing US on July 25 to arrive in Italy on July 26.

For more information contact:

Group Leader: Pastor Greg Wismar

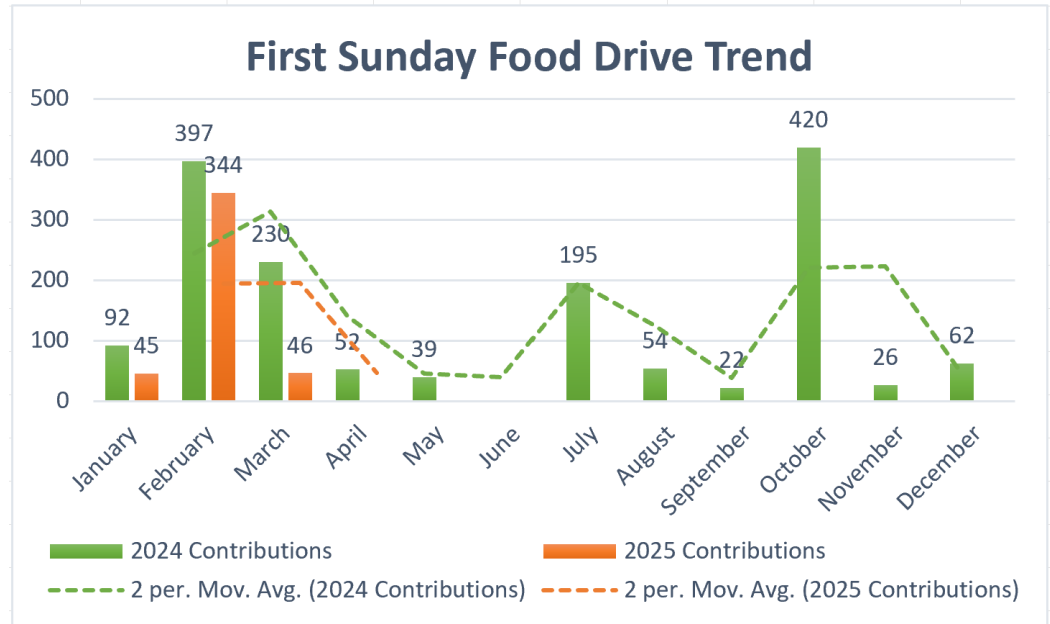
(203) 405-1135; wismar@prodigy.net

cosmos.



DONATE YOUR FREEBIES!

If you happen to spot an item at the grocery store selling at a special price “buy one -get one free”, purchase it and donate the free item



HELP WANTED

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry, Inc. is seeking new volunteers to assist on Tuesday or Thursday evenings. Hours are 2:30-6 PM. Commitment includes a few weeks of training either night with current volunteers. Once training & orientation is completed, we could discuss the best evening and task you would like to be a part of. We are also seeking individuals willing to be on-call as needed. Jobs include shopping with clients, reception desk & administration, stocking shelves, sorting donations, and helping donors drop-off food. Ability to lift 30lbs or more is a plus, but not required. All volunteers must be 18 years of age or older. Please contact the Food Pantry for more information.

“Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’” John 21:15b

LET'S NOT FORGET THOSE LESS FORTUNATE...

Don't let our First Sunday Food Bank donations fall behind last year's totals! Please note that the Cheshire Community Food Pantry is open Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00 a.m. until Noon and Tues. & Thurs. from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Please check expiration dates. We want to ensure the food we are sending is not out of date. Also, please remember that we cannot accept opened packages. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted, including non-food items such as soap, tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc. Tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc.

CHESHIRE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS HELP...

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry needs our help more than ever. Covid-19 has decreased contributions, children are home and people out of work. There are no Sunday donations to the Pantry. We can directly drop off items at the Pantry or send a cash for them to purchase what they need most. **THEY NEED OUR HELP!**

The Cheshire Community Food Pantry is located at:
175 Sandbank Rd
Cheshire Ct 06410

Send Checks to:
Cheshire Community Food Pantry PO BOX 457
or
you can donate \$\$ to them online at <https://www.cheshirefoodpantry.org/>

Call for drop off times: 203-699-9226

Bible Studies at CLC

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES...

Come and join us as we dig deeper into God's Word together in Bible Study.

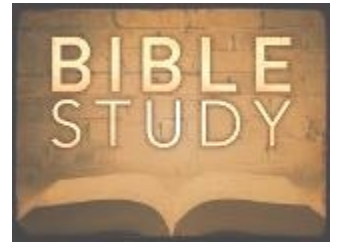
Our Sunday morning Bible Study starts at approximately 9:15 a.m. every Sunday. Our current topic looks at the question of what happens after we die and what the Scriptures say about the life of the world to come. The title of our study is **Death...Then What?** From *Lutheran Hour Ministries*. We have two lessons remaining: *Will We Ever Meet Again?* and *Our Eternal Future*. This study invites us to take Christian look at the reality that waits for all of us. As the study materials state, "That we all die is pretty much agreed upon, it's what takes place two seconds later that makes us wonder. Explore this lively and completely relevant topic in **Death...Then What?**"

Join us on Sunday mornings as we dig deeper into God's Word together.

In addition to Sunday morning Bible, we have our Midweek Bible study on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. that is starting a new study on the book of Philippians. We just started this study on April 30, so there is still time to join us before we get very far into Philippians.

We are meeting in the Church Library on Sundays and on Wednesdays. If you cannot be with us in person, watch for emails each week to participate by Zoom.

Everyone is welcome to join us any time, even if it's your first time, and even if it will be the only time. I look forward to seeing you.



SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED ...

A hearing assistance system (Williams Sound Corporation) and four receivers have been donated to CLC. A receiver (hearing aid) may be obtained from any usher. Please feel free to ask for one and make sure you return to an usher at the end of the service so it can be returned to its proper storage place for use at another time.



CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

Save your returnable Bottle and Cans. Money raised will benefit Little Cherubs. A collection can is located at the back of the Fellowship Hall by the storage closet.



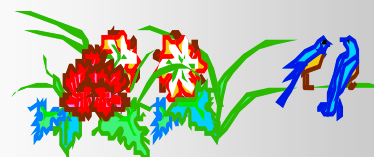
Michael Plantier
Carolyn Bammann
William Rowold
Norman Benedict
Barbara Hillis
John Greenhalgh
Kristen Green
Elizabeth Barden
Janet DeLaubell
Kristen Donewald
Emily Soulier
Cynthia Metz
Beth Soulier
Allyssa Hajjar
Vanessa Falk
Nancy Feero
Katelyn Lynch
Megan Smith
Donna Quast
Kyle Fiedler
Julianna Tyler



1st
13th
18th
25th
26th
29th
30th

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY May 2025

Glenn & Carlene Myers	42 Years
David & Mary Beth Blair	19 Years
Larry & Barbara Fiedler	57 Years
Rob & Janet DeLaubell	33 Years
Pastor & Tricia Rowold	24 Years
Todd & Christina Plantier	26 Years
Frank & Marilyn Miller	66 Years



UPCOMING COUNCIL & VOTER MEETINGS REMINDER...

Mark your calendars:

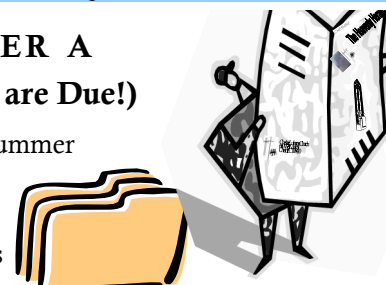
- ✦ The next **Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday June 3, 2025** at 7:00 PM at CLC and via Zoom.
- ✦ The next **Voters** meeting will be held on **Sunday May 18** and **September 7, 2024** after the late worship service at CLC and via Zoom



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A SUCCESS!! (Summer 2025 Articles are Due!)

Time to plan for the summer!! The next issue of the Heavenly Herald will represent our Summer edition. That's **June, July and August** news and events to consider.

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier by Friday **May 23rd** or earlier! Use email listed in our PRINTED directory. Place all non-electronic articles and information you would like printed into the HH in Beth's lateral file folder on the hallway counter. Thank You!



Cheshire Lutheran Church
660 West Main St
Cheshire CT 06410